

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-27 and 38-63 are currently pending. Claims 1-27 and 38-63 stand improperly rejected. Applicant recognizes the finality of the previous office action dated Oct. 18, 2006 has been withdrawn.

OBJECTIONS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out the minor claim language informalities to claims 1, 23, 25 and 27. Accordingly, the suggested corrections have been made by way of amendment. Withdrawal of this objection is kindly requested.

REJECTIONS

Claims 1-27 and 38-63 stand improperly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Foster, Jr et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,016,313).

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“a bus structure operatively connected to said first communication signal processor and to said communication controller, wherein said bus structure is adapted to accept plural communication signal processor and operatively connect said plural communication signal processors to said communication controller.”

Foster does not disclose a bus and provides no description of a bus. Therefore, Foster can not disclose the bus structure of Claim 1.

The Examiner alleges FIG. 7 of Foster discloses a bus structure operatively connected between CPU 260 and modems 240 and 700. Applicant disagrees with the

Examiner's alleged interpretation of a bus structure. FIG. 7 illustrates in-door (IDU) controller 250 which includes a CPU 260 and modems 240 and 700. The CPU 260 is described on column 10, lines 56-58 of Foster as providing:

“control signals to the outdoor (ODU) controller for the above discussed control functions”

The above described control functions that the disclosure of Foster is referring to include burst mode control of communication frames and synchronization of burst periods (column 10, lines 33-39).

FIG. 7 illustrates a set of interconnections between CPU 260 and modems 240 and 700. The interconnections are not comparable or even similar to a bus structure as recited in Claim 1. Foster discloses that increasing the number of modems requires adaptation to the existing system, which would not be necessary, if Foster disclosed a bus as recited in the present claims. For example, column 10, lines 24-27 of Foster recites that increased capacity requires adaptation of the in-door controller IDU controller 250. The “adapted” feature of the IDU controller 250 is further described on column 11, lines 6-13 of Foster as requiring modifications to the ODU controller 230.

“It shall be appreciated that increasing capacity by adding multiple modems to IDU controller 250 requires circuitry in ODU controller 230 in addition to the switch enabling TDMA access to a single data stream of one modem discussed above. Attention is now directed toward FIG. 8 wherein ODU controller circuitry corresponding to the inclusion of multiple modems within IDU controller 250 is shown.”

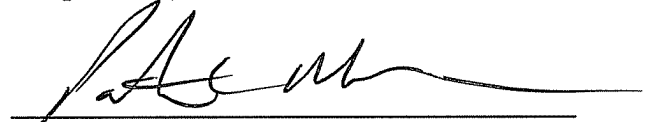
To support additional modems, Foster first requires the IDU controller 250 be adapted for more than one modem. Foster further requires that any additional modems be added to the IDU controller 250 such that the ODU controller 230 circuitry be supplemented with "circuitry" to support the additional modems. Foster discloses the need for various controller alterations to ODU and IDU controllers, 230 and 250, but fails to provide any support for a bus with an accommodating bus structure.

Accordingly, The rejection to Claim 1 is improper and must be withdrawn. Claim 1 is in condition for allowance as are all subsequent dependent claims thereon.

With regard to independent claims 27 and 38, Applicant submits that for the same reasons as set forth above with regard to independent Claim 1, that independent Claims 27 and 38 and those claims dependent thereon are also in condition for allowance.

While an extension of time is not deemed necessary, the Office is requested and hereby authorized to charge the appropriate extension-of-time fees needed to maintain the application pending against Deposit Account No. **04-1679** to Duane Morris LLP.

Respectfully submitted,



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